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(NE)

**REPLY UNDER 37 C. F. R. §1.116 –
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE – EXAMINING GROUP 1636**

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

BARRY J. BYRNE
JAMES E. CONWAY
GARY S. HAYWARD
NICHOLAS MUZYCZKA
SERGEI ZOLOTUKHIN

Group Art Unit: 1636

Examiner: Gerald Leffers, Jr.

Atty. Dkt. No.: 4300.012100

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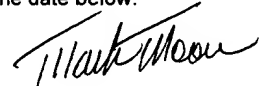
Filed: September 22, 1999

For: RECOMBINANT HERPES SIMPLEX
VIRAL VECTOR COMPOSITIONS
(as amended)

AMENDMENT; RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED DECEMBER 17, 2002

Mail Station AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING 37 C.F.R. 1.8	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Station AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date below:	
June 17, 2003	
Date	Mark D. Moore

This paper is submitted in response to the Final Office Action dated December 17, 2002, for which the three-month date for response was March 17, 2003. A request for a three-month extension of time to respond is included herewith. This three-month extension will bring the due date to June 17, 2003, which is within the six-month statutory period. The Assistant Commissioner should consider this paragraph as authorization to withdraw the appropriate fees